

ABSTRACT

G-IB-181

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(183)

1767 (mound), 1902 (monument)

Finzel, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. ---(183) and its mound of earth mark Mason and Dixon's 169th mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain, dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland; is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly set; measures 10 inches square by about 18 inches high above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when this site was surveyed and originally marked by the mound and wood post), and 1902 on the west side (when the new monument was set during the 1900-03

Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The mound, also in excellent condition, measures about 9 feet in diameter by about 3 feet high at the center, where the monument now replaces the original wood post long since gone. On the national and state levels, No. ---(183) and its mound are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their ^{identifiable} relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Survey No. G-IB-181

Magi No.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE, 169th Mile Post in Heap of Earth

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 183)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the northeast side of Pocahontas Road

CITY, TOWN

Finzel

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	X not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER state boundary marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

G-IB-181 entered 9/4/81

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE
Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION
 (monument & mound)
☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
 (monument & mound)
☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE
 ORIGINAL SITE (mound)
☒ MOVED
 DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(183) and its mound of earth mark a point on the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary 169 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line. The monument was a new dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top when added to the mound in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 18 inches high above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when originally surveyed and marked), and 1902 on the west side. The mound, also in excellent condition, is presumably an original Mason and Dixon mound of 1767, and measures about 9 feet in diameter by about 5 feet high.

The area here is high (elevation at the site about 2480 feet), hilly, densely wooded, sparsely settled along rural roads. The site is within Election District 9 of Garrett County, MD, ^{and} Greenville Township, PA; about 1½ miles northwest of the ^{small} village of Finzel, MD; about 1½ miles southwest of the settlement of Pocahontas, PA; about 1350 feet east of Milestone No. ---(184); at a point ^{about 1100 feet} ^{small} northeast of Pocahontas Road and the McKenzie house, on a ^{forested} north slope (about 500 feet uphill from Piney Creek valley floor), about 70 feet south of the old and new pipeline swath, wired to and forming the corner of two properties, marked by two wood fenceposts and barbed wire fencing. It cannot be seen from any road or the pipeline, but easily when near the convergence of the fencing; and is protected by the remoteness of the site and the fencing.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sidelings Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground without a concrete foundation. The letters and number are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex are all clear and intact; though the year 1902 is dropped down because of an apparent stonecutters mistake ("erased" by a blank rectangular section carved out).
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for further descriptions of original Mason and Dixon mounds and the Resurvey monuments)

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying	

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (mound)
 1902 (monument) ~~BOOKED BY~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE SURVEYORS

Milestone No. ---(183) and its mound of earth are significant on the national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of ^{the some} 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This part of the Line was surveyed and marked by ^{and additional wood posts} cairns/in 1767; and the new Cockeysville marble monument added to the center of the remains of a cairn in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as among the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. ---(183) and the mound are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Frostburg (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1949 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 67374, northing 439873

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY GarrettSTATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Somerset**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey DATE 10/12/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



MAT

15492071 AND 15492072 NE CORNER (1902)

THE MONUMENT (1902) NE CORNER (1902)
OF EARTH MARKING - 15492071 NE CORNER
NE CORNER OF LAND (1902)

NE CORNER (1902)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 10/2/91 (951 46 5A)



448

2-28-98

2-26 1 " WEST LINE, FIRESTONE - (12)

STONE MONUMENT (1902) IN LARGE OLD HOLLOW OF EARTH. MARKING
169TH MILE WEST OF NE CORNER OF HAWK. LAND

SH. CLARK (1902/14) = SPURRING SETTING, LOCATED AT TRAIL
IN EARTH HOLLOW

DISTANCE MARKED 13 2 1/2 (251-6 2-1)

FIRE LINE